

(a) the number of requests received by the DDA during the last one year from cooperative societies located in Dwarka in West Delhi for obtaining Form 'D';

(b) what are the reasons for the delay in issue of Form 'D';

(c) by when these forms are likely to be issued;

(d) whether he is aware of the corruption nexus between officers and the dealing clerks in DDA which delays in issue of these forms; and

(e) if so, the action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (e) The DDA have reported that during the period January, 2000 to January, 2001, it had received 41 cases from the Cooperative Group Housing Societies in Dwarka for sanctioning of 'D' Form.

Out of the aforesaid 41 cases, 'D' Forms have already been issued in 34 cases. Out of the remaining 7 cases, 3 cases were rejected and communicated to the Societies, one case has been referred to the Delhi Urban Art Commission, 2 cases are pending with the Societies for furnishing clarification non-completion of work and one case has been processed and submitted for approval.

In view of the above, no nexus between officers and the dealing clerks in the DDA in the issue of Form 'D' to the Cooperative Group Housing Societies, is discernible.

Telecast of Prof. Stephen Hawking's Lecture

***70. SHRI R. P. GOENKA:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan failed to deliver its promise of telecasting live the lecture by Prof. Stephen Hawking, World renowned Physicist, in New Delhi on 17th January, 2001;

(b) if so, the reasons for cancellation of the live coverage, the point of time and level at which this decision was taken; and

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed and any action taken for the hasty announcement without adequate ground work and subsequent cancellation of live coverage of the eagerly awaited prestigious lecture thereby belying expectations of the entire nation and also eroding further the credibility of Doordarshan itself?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The lecture by Professor Stephen Hawking, World renowned Physicist, in New Delhi on 17th January, 2001, was organized by the Centre for Philosophy and Foundation of Science. The telecast rights of the said event were with Discovery Channel. DD approached Discovery Channel and obtained the permission for telecast and thereafter issued a press release about the live telecast of the said lecture. Discovery Channel withdrew the permission for the live telecast on the evening of 16th January, 2001 on the grounds that the organizers had not agreed to the live telecast. However, DD made special arrangements with the Discovery Channel to obtain a recording of the said lecture and this was telecast on the News Channel on 18th January, 2001 at 10 PM and on DD-I on 21st January, 2001 at 7 PM.

(c) Does not arise.

Disinvestment of Public Sector Industrial Institutions

†*71. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive scheme has been formulated to disinvest all public sector industrial units;
- (b) if so, when the said scheme was formulated and what are the details thereof;
- (c) by when the scheme is targeted to be introduced; and
- (d) the estimated amount likely to accrue through disinvestment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Disinvestment of the Government equity in the Central Public Sector Enterprises is being carried out in accordance with the disinvestment policy of the Government as enunciated from time to time. Its main elements are:

- * Restructuring and reviving potentially viable PSUs;
- * Closing down PSUs, which cannot be revived;
- * Bringing down Government equity in all non-strategic PSUs to 26% or lower, if necessary; and
- * Fully protect the interests of workers.

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.